

EDITORIALS

There's Much to Do

This is National Civil Defense Week . . . a time for evaluating our personal, community and national state of emergency preparedness.

It is also a time to ask questions. What would you do if a flood, tornado or hurricane struck this community? What would you do if the enemy started a thermonuclear World War III? What plans have been developed by our leaders to protect us from natural or man-made disasters? Is our local, state, national government ready to operate under emergency conditions?

These are important questions . . . demanding answers. True enough, if natural disaster strikes, our local government would swing into action with all the resources of its police, fire, welfare or dotter services. This, of course, is its obligation.

In the event of enemy attack, the government would have the same responsibility for service in emergency except on a much, much greater scale. The problems that would beset a nuclear bombed America are so staggering as to be virtually incomprehensible.

No single local government can handle a major disaster alone—witness hurricane Audrey's trail in Louisiana. Nor could the federal government alone handle a major nuclear disaster.

The development of a sound national non-military defense requires the participation of all governments—from federal to local. It requires the governmental utilization of utilities, transportation, communication facilities—the utilization of service organizations such as the Red Cross, of industries and of institutions—all supplemented by trained auxiliaries. In a word, total non-military defense against disaster requires total non-military resources, both human and material.

This is why YOU are the key to the success or failure of this endeavor. This is why the White House designated this week National Civil Defense Week . . . to remind each and every one of us of the task that lies ahead if we are to preserve our nation, our social fabric, our civilization itself.

There is much you can do. As an individual you can make a special effort to learn, from the proper authorities, the simple common sense measures you should know to protect yourself and your family from disaster—natural or man-made. Knowledge is strength and, in this thermonuclear age we live in, knowledge may one day be life itself.

Call your local Civil Defense office and ask what you can do now to prepare your home and your community to meet disaster.



"HOW COME THE FLOOR IS PAINTED RED?"

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Thursday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES APR. 21 9-11-13 63-73-80-82	TAMARS MAY 21 20-25-33-36 41-56-61	GENIE MAY 22 7-11-17-40 12-15-17-40 21-25-33-36 41-56-61	CANCER JUNE 21 1-10-43 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70	LEO JULY 24 1-10-43 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70	VIRGO AUG. 24 1-10-43 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70	LIBRA OCT. 23 3-8-23 27-42-48	SCORPIO OCT. 24 4-6-34-37 44-45-57-74	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 23 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70	CAPRICORN DEC. 22 19-21-38-50 64-72-85-88	AQUARIUS JAN. 21 1-10-43 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70	PISCES FEB. 20 1-10-43 11-16-22-28-45 31-47-70
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Grist



AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Morley Thinks Girard Guilty

TOKYO, Japan — I have just come from the town of Maebashi, a short distance out of Tokyo, where U. S. Army Specialist William Girard is on trial for shooting a 46-year-old Japanese woman brass-picker to death last January. We don't wish to pre-judge the case until all the evidence is in, but from what we have already heard in the courtroom and in the press conferences of William Girard, we are of the opinion that he is guilty of at least "gross negligence," if not worse.

For anyone in his right mind does not shoot at a mature Japanese woman for picking up discarded shell casings, even though she may have violated U. S. regulations. Firing a weapon in the direction of a woman in broad daylight to "scare her away" is gross negligence in our book, as there is no earthly defense for such an inhuman act.

The likes of William Girard are adding flames to an already existing fire of resentment toward U. S. personnel abroad and complicate relationships between the United States and its friends.

It is our opinion that William Girard will get a better break in the court of Judge Yuzo Kawachi than in any U. S. court for the crime of which he is charged. If Girard is convicted on the charge of "bodily injury" (or manslaughter in the U.S.—which we believe he will be—he can receive a sentence of from two to 15 years.

We believe it will be to his advantage to change his plea to guilty of "gross negligence," which in the Japanese court carries a far shorter jail sentence, or a fine of only \$139. Judge Kawachi is known as very lenient, and if Girard admits "negligence," the court is likely to be more lenient for admitting his mistake.

Specialist Girard stated before the Maebashi district court that he accidentally shot Mrs. Naka Sakai while trying to scare her away. That he did not mean to injure her, or least of all kill her, is indeed plausible. But Prosecutor Kairo Konawa paraded witnesses who were also near the firing range picking up shell casings, and who testified that Girard was luring them closer by encouraging words just prior to the shooting. They recalled hearing Girard calling on Mrs. Sakai to come closer for shell casings just prior to the fatal shot—and that Girard had also shot at them a few minutes before.

Girard's testimony was to the effect that he was "guarding a machine gun" and that

he "fired over the heads of people to scare them away from the machine gun." This statement amounts to a plea of innocence of any wrong doing, which in our opinion—as a law graduate—is untenable on the fact of the evidence so far produced.

The indictment against Girard was supported by an important eyewitness in the person of Hideharu Onozeki, who charged that Girard had actually thrown several cartridges toward him and Mrs. Sakai, enticing them to come closer to his position. He testified that as he and Mrs. Sakai reached the cartridges,

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

The Best Policy?

How honest are you? After listening to a bondsman (a man who puts up a bond to insure legally that somebody will perform as expected), I'm beginning to wonder.

The man declared that an estimated \$500,000,000 is lost each year through thefts of money or merchandise by employees. That's a frightening figure when you stop to think about it.

That includes, of course, insurance presidents who embezzle a million dollars from their firms, or bank cashiers who make off with \$25,000 to play the races or support the girl friend.

According to the bondsman, the average embezzler is male, 35, married, and the father of two children, and has worked for his employer about seven years. Sound like anyone you know?

Many supposedly respectable persons and highly esteemed persons are thieves of one sort or another. But it isn't always money that's stolen. Sometimes employees "shoplift" their employer's property.

During the last war, a firm was planning to take some publicity pictures of its employees as they left the plant. However, the rumor somehow spread among the employees that the FBI was going to shake them down as they left. More than 4000 separate items were found around on the ground between the plant and the gate, dropped by frightened employees who were about to take them home.

Not too long ago, the papers carried a story about some company employees who was caught carrying a plant jeep parts out of the plant where he worked. When they took the man home, they found that he had an almost completely assembled jeep at

home. He admitted that he had carried out parts of the jeep every day over a long period of time. He was nabbed only shortly before he had the complete vehicle assembled.

Of course, in most places, this doesn't happen on a large scale, but law officers claim that it happens more often than most people think.

At industrial plants, workers often help themselves to tools or parts. In grocery stores, employees sometimes help themselves to a few cans or boxes of food. Clothing store owners sometimes lose a suit or blouse. Office workers may take off with a ream of paper, a jar of paste, or a pair of scissors.

There are some people who would walk off with all of the office furniture if they could get away with and some of them try it. Other thieves are a minor variety, snitching a few pencils and erasers. Then there are some people who don't sleep easy if they take home a pencil by mistake.

It takes all kinds. What kind are you?

YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

Say Something to the Spouse

Dear Ann: My problem concerns a 15-year-old neighbor girl. Her parents are gone all day and she's over at our house a lot. Our sons, 9 and 11, just love her.

Almost every night after dinner she's in our back yard. I have never seen such a Tom-boy. She wrestles with my husband for hours at a time and this is frankly what I'm writing about. I don't care for this kind of horsing around.

My husband is a great kiddier and loves to play with youngsters. But it seems to me a girl of her age should be more lady-like and not go in for such roughhousing. When I was 15 I had other things on my mind beside wrestling with a man old enough to be my father.

If I sound jealous, believe me, I am not. I know she's just a child but I feel she should know better. Kindly advise me how to handle this matter with tact. — Mrs. In-A-Stew.

So this "child" should know better than to be wrestling with a man? And how old is your husband? They should BOTH know better, but since they don't, you ought to say something to the spouse in your house.

Explain to him that this sort of playing is in the worst possible taste. A 15-year-old girl is more a woman than a child. If she isn't lady enough to keep people's hands off her, HE should know better. Since he loves to "horse around" and has so much excess energy to burn up, suggest that he wrestle with his sons.

Dear Ann: I must have help. I can't think clearly any more. My sister, 20, came to live with us when Mom and Dad couldn't handle her at home.

She got a job for \$60 a week and in one month ran up \$300 in debts. She gave us as credit references so my husband paid the bills because he didn't want our names ruined. In two months she ran up bills for \$165. I told my husband not to help her again and then the trouble started. She got mad at us and acted ugly. She screams at our children and won't lift a hand to keep her room clean. Last week it was so filthy I couldn't stand it so I cleaned it myself. She was furious and said I had no right to go into her things. She pays us \$10 a week for her keep and thinks this entitles her to do as she pleases.

Editor, Torrance Herald: Referring to your editorial (Sunday) protesting that city council was merely "expedient" in rezoning the Hollywood Riviera beach front property, don't be too hard on the Council members because, while it is admittedly an unattractive quality, expediency is part and parcel of all politicians.

However, I for one don't believe their action as you do. Even if "the city attorney admits he could find no legal distinction between 'plush hotel and plush motel,' I'm sure that in actual practice there is a tremendous difference between cooking facilities in the accommodations and the beautiful hotel so artistically portrayed in Don-Ja-Ran's successful effort to rezone the property for hotel purposes.

This display, of course, turned out to be nothing but a smoke screen, and I for one am glad the culprits were caught before it was too late. And, after all, is it so terrible to be punished for misrepresentation? If you catch a kid with his hands in the cookie jar, you do more than take the cookies away—you give him a good rap on the knuckles so he'll remember that he was caught in his wrongdoing.

Let's hope that the council members are above any actions to which an "expedient" label can be successfully pinned.

D. P. BEAVER
221 Via Los Miradores

Suggests New Name

Editor, Torrance Herald: Please pardon me for taking up a little of your time, as I am a newcomer, and would like to show my true appreciation of all the kindness which has been shown me. I would take too long to mention all the names, even the clerks in the stores show me courtesy.

So, my only complaint is that this town's name should be changed to Welcome City. True, everyone threw rocks in my way for moving here, but here I am. The lady with the Welcome Wagon was sweetness itself.

Thank you for your time.
MRS. BILLY RYBERG
1908 Cabrillo Ave.

I asked Mom and Dad to take her off our hands because she's ruining our home-life. My husband and I are cross with each other and I have no patience with the children. My folks are "disappointed in me" and say I have failed them. Shall I keep my sister for their sake? Please tell me, I am going to pieces. My nerves are shot and I cry constantly.—B.E.D.

Who will care for your family if you have a nervous breakdown? It's good that you want to help your folks but you're under no obligation to keep a sister who drives you batty just because they can't tolerate her either.

Tell her she has a week to find another place to live. If she screams, tune her out. When the week is up, if she isn't packed and gone, put her out. Tell your parents your health and family come first. They know what a broom-jockey sis is . . . that's why they sent her to you.

Dear Ann: This is my second marriage and I have three children. The two boys are very devoted. They are only half brothers, but the younger one who is 8 does not know it.

FROM THE MAILBOX By Our Readers

A Different Label

Editor, Torrance Herald: Referring to your editorial (Sunday) protesting that city council was merely "expedient" in rezoning the Hollywood Riviera beach front property, don't be too hard on the Council members because, while it is admittedly an unattractive quality, expediency is part and parcel of all politicians.

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My husband feels I should tell the boy but I'm afraid to shock him with this news for fear it will create an emotional problem. I see no reason to go into the details of my first marriage since the child doesn't remember his father.

My theory is "What they don't know can't hurt 'em." What do you say?—Thinking Mother.

Your theory that "what they don't know can't hurt 'em" is just a collection of words. As a matter of fact what they don't know can hurt them the most.

Tell this boy as casually as possible and don't make a federal case out of it. Answer his questions simply and honestly. Unless the child is going to be raised in a cocoon someone would be bound to tell him later and THEN you'd have a real emotional problem. He would suspect you tried to fool him and it could rock his trust and faith permanently.

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.)
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A NEW CONCEPT . . . Discussing Ryan Aeronautical's "Firebee" drone target craft, are G. W. Rutherford (left), works manager for the new Torrance plant of Ryan; A. E. Thompson, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce; and William Brotherton, public relations manager for Ryan. The Ryan firm was welcomed to Torrance at the September Chamber of Commerce breakfast this week.

WHEN IT'S TIME TO MOVE

LOCAL OR LONG DISTANCE — It's Time to See . . .

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